

THE SILENT WORLD.

Vol. III.

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 15, 1873.

No. 4.

CHILDREN OF SILENCE.

PLAYING in the sunshine,
Sitting in the shade,
Wandering through the meadow,
Or down the mossy glade;
Yet in shade or sunshine,
Together or alone,
Silent, silent ever,
Deaf to every tone.

Watching those who listen,
With earnest brow and eye,
Drinking in the wisdom
Of ages long gone by;
Seeing how they mingle
In converse sweet around,
Yet doomed to dwell in silence,
Deaf to every sound.

Waiting, waiting silently,
Life's journey almost o'er;
Waiting for the hand of death
To burst the prison door.
Waiting for the angels
To bring his spirit home,
To his Father's house in heaven,
Where there are no deaf and dumb.

O poor child of silence,
A lonely lot was thine,
As silently thy childhood passed,
Thy youth and manhood's prime.
But now the dawn is breaking,
The night is almost o'er,
And with the angels thou wilt soon
Be singing evermore.

—W. T.

Adult Deaf and Dumb Society,
6 John Dalton street, Manchester, England.

REMINISCENCES OF THE WAR.

IV.

OUR readers will be pleased to read the following extract from a letter of E. M. Gallaudet's brother-in-law, the Rev. Henry Clay Trumbull, of Hartford, to *The Sunday-School World* of August, 1865. It was written while he was on a visit to Washington:

"Just out from Washington city stands the Columbia Institution for the deaf and dumb and for the blind. The buildings are on high ground above the only railroad that connects the national capital with the North and West, so that every passing train is in full view of their windows. Within the past three months perhaps a quarter of a million of soldiers have travelled over that single road on their way to their homes. Long trains of fifteen, twenty, or thirty cars loaded with the returning veterans have rumbled by many times each day, and it has been the habit of teachers and pupils of the Institution to give a greeting to all the passing soldiers, as often as a train appeared. None there ever tire of thus evidencing affection for the brave men who have done so much for our dear country at such sad cost to themselves and their loved ones. As soon as the puff, puff of the tugging locomotive is heard coming up from the depot, a mile below, the word is given by some whose quick ears are always open, and by the time the cars are in full view there is a gathering on the lawn before the buildings, at the doors and at the windows above and below, and white and star-spangled greetings flutter from hundreds of outstretched hands.

"The soldiers note these indications of interest in and sympathy with themselves and never fail to give response. Even if they have not snowy handkerchiefs to wave in return, they can and do swing war-worn caps most heartily, and shout glad thanks in united and continuous cheers, while sometimes their bands send up sweet strains of grateful music in warmest appreciation of the kindly promptings of the soldiers' friends.

"On one occasion two trains came in collision not far from the Institution, and several of the poor soldiers who had hoped to be soon at home with dear ones from whom they had been separated long and far were killed outright, after having passed unharmed through all the bloody war, while others were severely bruised or shockingly mangled. That was a sad, sad hour, and there were tears instead of cheers that evening from those who watched and those who had been waited for. Instead of the customary waving of handkerchiefs and little flags there was opportunity then to help the suffering and to say words of comfort to the sorrow-stricken.

"At another time there was a detention of a soldiers' train near the same spot, to wait for a train from Baltimore, and again there was an opening for other greetings than by the wonted signals. The soldiers seemed very grateful for the kindness shown them, and in the exuberance of their gratitude sent warmly-worded notes of thanks to those who had waved their cordial salutations. They told who they were—soldiers from New York and from away down in Maine, just out from the grand old Potomac army. 'We're going home, now,' wrote one. 'Oh! aint we glad.' Dear boys! they had won a right to love home and to be glad they were going to it. Many a night of suffering and day of toil and danger had they passed, away from home, wishing themselves back in it, but unwilling to leave their work unfinished, cost what it might. At length, thank God! they were privileged to return with their mission fully accomplished. No wonder that their hearts bounded with grateful joy and fond anticipations.

"A soldier's treasures are few as he journeys homeward from the war. There is but little room in his crowded knapsack for keepsakes, and he seldom carries an unnecessary burden. But one sent forward a little valentine he had received and kept precious, while another tore off part of a loved father's letter and on that scribbled sincerest thanks; and yet a third, more enthusiastic and generous than the others, plucked a glittering star from the tattered flag he had followed and defended so long, and sent that to the Institution to be given to the one who had first waved a flag of welcome.

"Ah! what thankfulness was there shown. Had that soldier coined his own life-blood he could not have given so priceless a treasure as in that shred of the dear flag in comparison with which he had counted his life as nothing, and for love of which he had been so long away from home and dear ones. And what he gave was prized as it should be. It is held to-day as one of the choicest possessions of a soldier's wife and child, and will be cherished by them as a loved memento while life continues. Still the soldiers are homeward-bound! Still the rumbling trains speed heavily laden over the Washington road. Still the loving watchers wave their greetings to the nation's noblest, truest sons; and thus it doubtless will be until the last sights of the terrible war pass away with the return of the last soldier of the Government from Southern soil."

EARLY TEACHERS OF THE DEAF.

II.

PEDRO PONCE DE LEON.

To Spain belongs the honor of having given birth to the first teacher of the deaf and dumb who met with any considerable success, though, like a great many of the early philanthropists, very little is known of him.

Pedro Ponce, or, as he is sometimes called, Pedro Ponce de Leon, a Benedictine monk of the monastery of San Salvador de Ona, was born in 1520, of a noble family in Valladolid, Old Castile, and died in the monastery of Ona, where he had spent the greater part of his life. It is said that his tomb can still be seen, and that the monks still preserve the following record of his worth:

"Anno Domini 1584, in the month of August, Brother Pedro Ponce fell asleep in the Lord. He was a benefactor of this house, illustrious for his virtues, but his crowning excellence, and that which gained him a deserved renown throughout the world, was his teaching the dumb to speak."

"Ponce," says Francisco Valles, a contemporary, "enabled those who were deaf and dumb from birth to speak, teaching them first to write the names of the objects, then directing their attention to the objects themselves and finally instructing them to repeat the words they had written with their vocal organs."

Ambrosio Morales, another contemporary, says in his writings that the pupils of Ponce were two brothers and a sister of the Constable of Castile, and a son of the chief-justice of Arragon. One of Ponce's pupils, a brother of the Constable, was, according to Morales, a prodigy of learning. Although a congenital mute, young Don Pedro de Velasco is said to have become a finished Latin scholar before he had arrived at the age of twenty. Another writer tells us that there is a paper in the archives of the monastery at Ona, supposed to have been written by Ponce, which attests that his pupils "spoke, wrote, prayed aloud, attended mass, confessed, spoke Greek, Latin, Italian, (as well as Spanish,) and reasoned remarkably well upon physics and astronomy. They were so distinguished in the sciences that they would have passed for men of talent in the eyes of Aristotle."

This statement is probably a mixture of truth and falsehood. Ponce, in all probability, met with a very fair degree of success, but it is almost impossible to believe that his pupils possessed all the accomplishments enumerated above. Ponce also states that one of his pupils received ordination as a priest, and performed his parish duties very acceptably, while another became a distinguished military officer.

JOHN PAUL BONET.

The next teacher of deaf-mutes, John Paul Bonet, also a Spaniard, was or pretended to be ignorant of what Ponce had done half a century previous, for in his (Bonet's) *Reduccion de las Letras y Artes para enseñar a Hablar a los Mudos*, (Reduction of Letters and Arts for Teaching the Deaf and Dumb to Speak,) he represents himself as the author of his methods. This book was published in Madrid in 1620, and is the first manual for teaching deaf-mutes that ever appeared. Bonet was a priest, and secretary to the Constable of Castile—not the same Constable, however, whose brothers were pupils of Ponce—which makes it very extraordinary that he did not hear by the latter, as the two Constables were relations. The Velascos seem to have been an unfortunate family, for this nobleman had a brother who was a congenital deaf-mute.

Urged by sentiments of personal affection for the Constable, Bonet undertook the deaf-mute's education, and if we can believe the testimony of Sir Kenelm Digby, who says he saw both master and pupil, when he accompanied the Prince of

Wales (afterwards the unlucky Charles I) on his romantic visit to the Infanta of Spain, he carried the youth's education to a height seldom or never attained by subsequent teachers of this class.

Sir Kenelm says, speaking of this young man:

"There was a priest who undertook the teaching him to understand others when they spoke, and to speak himself that others might understand him, for which attempt he was at first laughed at; yet after some years he was looked upon as if he had wrought a miracle. In a word, after strange patience, constancy, and pains, he brought the young lord to speak as distinctly as any man whatsoever, and to understand so perfectly what others said that he would not lose a word in a whole day's conversation. I have often discoursed with the priest whilst I waited upon the Prince of Wales—now our gracious sovereign—in Spain, and I doubt not but his majesty remembereth all I have said of him, and much more; for his majesty was curious to observe and inquire into the utmost of it. He could discern in another whether he spake shrill or low, and he would repeat after anybody any hard word whatsoever, which the Prince tried often, not only in English, but by making some Welchmen who served his highness speak words of their language, which he so perfectly echoed that I confess that I wondered more at that than at all the rest; and his master himself would acknowledge that the rules of his art reached not to produce that effect in any certainty; and therefore concluded this in him must spring from other rules he had framed unto himself out of his attentive observation, which the advantages which nature had justly given him in the sharpness of senses to supply the want of this, (his lost hearing,) endowed him with the ability and sagacity to do beyond any other man that had his hearing. He expressed it surely in a high measure by his so exact imitation of the Welch pronunciation, for that tongue, like the Hebrew, employeth much the guttural letters, and the motions of that part which frameth them cannot be seen or judged by the eye, otherwise than by the effect they may happily make by consent in the other parts of the mouth exposed to view. For the knowledge he had of what they said sprung from his observing the motions they made, so that he could converse currently in the light, though they talked with whispers never so softly, and I have seen him at the distance of a large chamber's breadth say words after one that I, standing close by the speaker, could not hear a syllable of."

Bonet, in his work of instruction, made use of artificial pronunciation; the manual alphabet, and gesture, or the language of signs and writing. Much use was made by Bonet of the manual alphabet; and although signs were used at the commencement of instruction, they were discarded as useless as soon as the pupil was sufficiently advanced in his studies to be able to do without their aid. Bonet died in 1629.

* Digby's Treatise on Bodies, cited in London Encyclopædia, vol. 7.

A short time since, as a young lady by the name of Delia More, a deaf-mute, aged eighteen years, and the daughter of Jesse More, of Derby, Conn., was coming from her work to dinner, the iron and steel works gong blew for twelve, and a span of horses attached to a large pedler's wagon took fright and ran away. The girl not being able to hear the team coming, did not get out of the way, and was struck by the pole of the wagon and knocked down, the horses and wagon passing over her. She was horribly mutilated. She was picked up and conveyed to her home, next to the Congregational church, in Derby, where she died in about fifteen minutes. She worked in the Shelter & Co. tack factory, and was a well educated and exemplary young lady.

THE HOME EDUCATION OF DEAF-MUTES— HOW CAN IT BEST BE PROMOTED?

THAT a large majority of deaf-mute children are in a lamentable state of ignorance on entering school is a fact which no one who is at all conversant with deaf-mute education will deny.

That this state of ignorance is the result of a lack of training and development of the mental faculties, and not owing to natural inferiority of intellect in the mute, is also generally conceded by those whose experience renders them most competent to judge.

This being admitted, the question arises, Why is the education of these children thus neglected while they are at home? In a great many, if not in most cases, the reason must be that their friends do not know that they might themselves begin their education, and carry it on during the period at which the mind is most susceptible to lasting impressions, and consequently in the most favorable state for receiving the foundation of a good education.

For this state of things the obvious remedy is to convince the friends of the children that they possess the power to do as we have said, and persuade them to use it, and show them how it may be done.

Until the parents of deaf-mutes are convinced that their young children can learn a great deal at home, it will be vain to expect deaf-mute education to reach that degree of perfection to which its best friends long to see it elevated.

The high classes in the various institutions and the College at Washington have done much towards bringing about this desirable result, but much yet remains to be accomplished.

The leading efforts heretofore have been mainly directed to finishing off the education not properly begun. Complete success can never thus be realized. It is like trying to erect a substantial building upon a defective foundation. By the expenditure of a vast amount of time and money the building may be made habitable, and the mute deprived of early instruction may acquire a tolerable education, but how much better it would be in both cases to avoid the extra labor, and also obtain more satisfactory results by beginning right!

We have a plan to suggest for the consideration of those who have the power to act. It is this. Let the principals of the various State institutions employ competent persons whose business it shall be to travel through the entire State, hunt up the deaf-mute children, and see that their education is properly begun. The agent should be well supplied with alphabet-cards, plainly engraved, and of a form which would be attractive to children. A systematic plan might be devised to enable him to find the children without much difficulty.

He could then visit each family containing a mute child, and remain a few days, during which he might teach the child the alphabet, or a part of it, and a few simple words. Success in the undertaking would depend chiefly upon the hearty and efficient co-operation of the parents, brothers, and sisters of the deaf children, and this would, in most cases, be given willingly. The agent could supply them with the alphabet-cards, teach them to spell, and instruct them as to the best method of interesting the mute children, and developing their mental faculties in such a manner as to render learning a pleasure as well as a gain to them.

It would be necessary for him to visit each family several times a year to see that good progress was made, and to encourage both the mutes and their friends to persevere in the good work. In large cities and the more densely populated localities he might have several children under his care at the same time.

The agent should be possessed of special qualifications for the work. He would meet with many difficulties, but none

which patience and perseverance could not overcome. He would have trouble in finding some of the children; the fare and accommodations would often be poor, and in some cases he would have to contend against the indifference of both parents and children. But in compensation for all this, many families would welcome him as a benefactor, and exert themselves to the utmost to make his visits pleasant to himself and useful to his pupils. Moreover, he would be cheered and encouraged by witnessing the constant improvement of the children under his care, and by the consciousness that he was engaged in a noble work. The hearing children would everywhere welcome his coming, gladly learn to spell on their fingers, and thus not only benefit themselves but also be able to aid in teaching their deaf relatives.

The influence of the agents would doubtless cause many mute children to be sent to the State institutions, who would otherwise be kept at home and deprived of all educational advantages. Every one thus reclaimed from ignorance, and, perhaps, also from a life of vice and crime, would be an evidence of the value of the plan we have proposed, and the advantages resulting to the State would far more than compensate for the expense incurred, to say nothing of the advantage it would be to the mutes themselves.

Before closing, we will add that the agent could not be too earnest in impressing upon the minds of the friends of deaf children that they must, as they value the welfare of these children, shun the pernicious habit of relying upon signs in communicating with them to the exclusion of finger-spelling and writing; nor must they for a moment lose sight of the fact that the first and greatest aim in deaf-mute education is to give the pupil a ready command of the English language.

Signs, if judiciously employed, will be useful to a limited extent, but mainly as a source of amusement rather than a means of instruction.

Were this plan systematically followed out, we believe that it would mark a new era in deaf-mute education, and that the time would soon pass away when deaf-mutes, after several months of instruction at school, would write such sentences as "Horse black a," "Black a horse," or, "I like to sweep the broom with a floor."

D. H. C.

SILENCE iz a still noise. Brevity iz the child uv Silence, and duz the old man great credit.—*Josh Billings.*

A COUPLE of Pennsylvania fiends lately knocked a peddler on the head with stones, stole his money and his pack, and placed him on a railroad to be run over by the next train. He was discovered in this critical position by a deaf and dumb man, and removed.

A DEAF-MUTE was recently walking on a railroad track in Connecticut, and the engineer, observing that he paid no attention to the alarm whistle, guessed the truth, applied his air-brakes, and succeeded in slowing the train so much that the fellow was bunted from the track with but little injury.

ON the 30th of January, a deaf and dumb man was run over at Homewood, Pa., on the Pittsburg, Virginia and Charleston railroad, and received injuries from which he died shortly afterwards. He was walking along the track when a train was backing down. The deceased was about twenty-five years of age, and lived at Homewood.

At one of the Presidential levees during the war, a deaf-mute lady was introduced to William H. Seward, then Secretary of State. At first he did not know she was deaf, and with his usual urbanity proceeded to speak freely to her. Upon being told she was deaf, he promptly took pencil and wrote, "You are tantalizing."

THE SILENT WORLD.

Published Semi-Monthly by

J. BURTON HOTCHKISS AND MELVILLE BALLARD.

Terms: Single subscriptions for the paper with engraving, \$1.50 per year, in advance. After a delay of three months, \$1.75 will be charged; after six months, \$2.00; after one year, \$2.50. Single copies, 8c.

All money should be sent by P. O. money-orders, draft or registered letter. If it is forwarded otherwise it will be at the risk of the sender.

Address THE SILENT WORLD, Box 47, WASHINGTON, D. C.

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 15, 1873.

CYRIL CADWALLADER naturally objects to the correction which our printer made in his manuscript, in putting *angels* for *Angles*; for he thinks, however holy the good Bede might have been, he could not at that time speak with authority of the language of the heavenly host.

Of late we have been unusually favored, and letters of correspondence have poured in upon us in a perfect flood. We wish to gratify all our friends by printing what they send us, but our space is limited, and we ask those whose communications do not appear not to think we do not value their favors.

THE collection of reports, photographs, &c., of American institutions for the deaf, for exhibition at the Vienna Exposition, will be quite a fine one, as we are informed by Mr. Fay. Some of the reports forwarded are very handsomely bound. There is still time to send material, and it is hoped that every school will respond to the call with at least copies of their reports.

PRESIDENT GALLAUDET, of the National Deaf-Mute College, who is now spending some time in Europe, has written to General Eaton, the Commissioner of Education, expressing his intention of securing, if possible, a conference of teachers of the deaf and dumb at the Vienna Exposition next June. This is an original idea, and worthy of the enterprising gentleman who started it. It would be very interesting to the whole world of deaf-mutes and their instructors to have the many eminent teachers of the deaf and dumb in Europe meet and exchange their views on the various systems of instruction.

MR. HENRY BLACKBURN, an English art critic, now in this country, recently contributed an article to *The New York Evening Post*, some portions of which, relating to instruction in drawing, struck us as very sensible. He says the principal fault in English as in American schools of art is, that "drawing is taught in most cases as though the student intended to become a painter." Is not this also the case with all instruction in drawing in our deaf-mute schools? Much has been said of the aptitude of deaf-mutes for art studies, and yet we think the results attained by deaf-mutes in this profession are entirely disproportionate to what may justly be expected of them, in view of the circumstances in which they are placed. Every artist is not a painter, and the pencil, in these days of profuse pictorial illustration, is in far greater demand than the brush. We think line drawing with pen and ink, and wood drawing in outline chiefly, should be taught in our schools, for although not one pupil may become a Leech or even a Nast, still all would stand a much better chance of getting a living and of making a name than by striving to master all the details of elaborate drawing and the brush and canvas. "Bearing in mind," as Mr. Blackburn says, "that the daily newspaper of the future will undoubtedly be illustrated, and that the best qualified reporter for the press will be the best draughtsman

as well as short-hand writer, the importance of cultivating the short-hand of pictorial art is greater than may appear at first sight." If, in the process of this teaching, any genius develops itself, it can be cultivated in painting to its full swing, while the mass will at the same time acquire a profitable knowledge of art.

EXIT, SILENT WORLD.

WITH this number THE SILENT WORLD makes its last appearance.

The duty which we owe to ourselves and to the Institution with which we are connected as teachers forbids our continuance in the publication of the paper. The constantly-increasing demands upon our time which the requirements of our situations make will not allow us to give that attention to the business and editorial management of the paper which is essential to its success. Besides, we have proved to our own satisfaction that the deaf-mute community is not prepared to support such a paper as we sought to establish.

When it was first started, it was hoped that within two years the paper would pay enough to enable the proprietors to employ persons to relieve them of a great portion of the work connected with the business management. But as this has never been, and as this work has absorbed all of their leisure hours, and of late threatened to invade that portion of their time upon which their duties as teachers have a prior claim, and as none can be found upon whom they can shift their mantle, the only alternative left is, either to throw up their situations in the Washington Institution, or let THE SILENT WORLD retire. They prefer the latter course; therefore *exit* SILENT WORLD.

In looking back upon the career of this paper, the publishers acknowledge that they have committed some mistakes; but as they arose from conscientious convictions, they have little to be ashamed of. As to the merits of the paper they are not the judges; but if the seven hundred persons, more or less, (usually less,) who have been its readers, think that it was worth the price asked for it, they are satisfied, and retire with no regrets.

Our thanks are offered to the few who have sympathized with our attentions and aided our labors, and we shall always remember them kindly.

Money which is due subscribers on unexpired subscriptions will be returned as soon as possible after our affairs are settled, or as soon as we can raise the amount required. If there is a delay of a few months subscribers need not fear, for we shall pay all that is justly due them.

The prizes which we offered to persons getting subscribers will be distributed among those who have obtained the highest numbers, and we hope that they will give satisfaction.

[CORRESPONDENCE.]

To the Editors of *The Silent World*:

I read something in your valuable paper of January 1 respecting the Pennsylvania Cleric Memorial Association, communicated by your correspondent "J." He says that the deaf-mutes of Pittsburg seem not yet to have responded to the circular sent from Philadelphia; neither have they taken any interest in the advancement of the project.

I will state that when we met at our hall in Pittsburg some time last fall we had a debate on this subject, and we decided that we would not ratify the constitution or contribute any more to the project until we had heard from other sections. Yours truly,

PITT.

INSTITUTION NEWS.

MISSISSIPPI.

On the first Saturday evening of each month the pupils of this Institution have a social gathering and a dance; the pupils are all good dancers, especially the girls. Those who misbehave during the month are not allowed to attend the hop.

On Christmas, Gov. Powers, and Judge Morris, the attorney-general, attended the party, and a very fine supper was served. At the last gathering several members of the Legislature were present.

The school now has forty-one pupils and half-a-dozen more are soon expected to enter. The Institution is well situated, and has small but tastefully-ornamented grounds. The capitol is but a few blocks away, and legislative calls are frequent.

An appropriation for the erection of a right wing is expected. This wing will contain a lecture-room, shops, and dormitories.

Mr. J. W. Scott, from one of whose letters we extract the foregoing particulars, who graduated from the Washington College for Deaf-Mutes last June, now teaches a class of twenty pupils in three divisions, and is very favorably impressed with the appearance and intelligence of all of the scholars.

THE PITTSBURG SCHOOL.

For a long time there has been talk of establishing a school in Pittsburg, but it has not yet been built. Some time since, a Mr. Kelly gave a tract of land for the site of the proposed deaf-mute school, but he has not yet given the deed to Dr. J. G. Brown, the manager of the school. Mr. Kelly has often assured Mr. Brown that he might build an institution at any time he wished, and he would then certainly give a deed. This, Rev. Mr. Brown could not do, because several wealthy citizens, who have pledged to give him money, wanted him to get a deed from Mr. Kelly before commencing to build, as they will not give their money till the deed is obtained; so he must wait till Mr. Kelly sees fit to make it out.

A few weeks ago, Rev. Mr. Brown, while on a visit to Washington, told us that he still holds to the purpose of building a large institution in the western part of Pennsylvania, which will hold about 250 pupils. He said that Pennsylvania is altogether too stingy in educating her deaf-mutes. Notwithstanding all the obstacles he has encountered, we believe that he will some time accomplish his purpose, and we hope that his efforts will be crowned with success. S. D.

PROTESTANT INSTITUTION, MONTREAL.

REFERENCE has more than once been made in these columns to the embarrassed financial condition of this Institution, and the principal topics of the report now before us have been laid before our readers, and we shall now touch only upon such matters as have not been mentioned heretofore.

The principal favors the compulsory education of deaf-mutes. He also regards the instruction of pupils in trades as second in importance only to their regular education, for the reason that many are too old to be apprenticed when they leave school.

Mr. Henry Porter, a graduate of this Institution, who acquired a knowledge of carpentry in the New York Institution, has been engaged to teach that trade to the pupils.

The report is printed by the pupils in a very creditable manner, after only a few weeks' instruction.

The principal recommends the formation of an association of the adult Protestant deaf-mutes of Montreal for religious instruction and mutual improvement, and for the aid of sick deaf-mutes and the obtaining of employment for those out of work. The principal has been performing this labor heretofore, and has obtained situations for several deaf-mutes. The Roman

Catholic deaf-mutes of Montreal have an association of this kind.

The health of the Institution has been very good. There has been one case of small-pox, but owing to the promptness and skill of the physician, Mr. W. E. Scott, the spread of the disease was prevented.

The compositions attached to the report show very creditable advancement in the acquisition of a command of the English language on the part of the pupils.

THE SILENT WORLD is obliged for the words of welcome extended to it.

MICHIGAN INSTITUTION.

ON New Year's day the pupils enjoyed a very pleasant sleigh ride about the city, the weather being very pleasant, and sleighing excellent. Hon. J. B. Walker kindly placed at their service three large omnibus sleighs, which were employed a whole day in conveying them by turns through the streets till all had enjoyed a share of riding. In the evening they had a pleasant sociable in the girls' sitting-room.

Miss Hoagland, whose illness forbade her return at the beginning of the school term, has recently resumed her duties.

Mr. Brennan, a teacher, on the 18th of January, married Miss Emma J. Lambert, a former pupil of the Institution and an intelligent lady. It is a curious fact that all the male teachers who are graduates of the New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb have chosen Western ladies for helpmeets.

Dr. Fish, one of our trustees, and his son, have Pacific sloped for their health.

The exciting event of the 31st of January was the visit to the Institution of the Senate and House committees of the Legislature, accompanied by about 60 of the other members. Upon their arrival they were immediately ushered into the chapel, where they witnessed some very interesting exercises by the pupils. Among them were addresses of welcome written by the oldest class, who are under the instruction of the efficient Mr. Thomas L. Brown. The gentlemen seemed much pleased with their welcome. Delos Simpson, a member of Mr. Brown's class, who is understood to be preparing for the National Deaf-Mute College, gave the following comments on Horace Greeley:

"When the great national poet of Scotland, Burns, died, the question arose, 'Who will be our poet?' The same may be said of Horace Greeley among us, and we ask, 'Who will be our leading journalist and able adviser.' Indeed, the death of Mr. Greeley is as great a loss to us as the death of Burns was to Scotland."

Miss Maria Crouch, another member, who became deaf at the age of 10 years, and has been under instruction five years and a half, excited much admiration among the guests by her readiness and facility in writing on any given subject. She wrote an excellent account of the Credit Mobilier. It may be added that Mr. Jacob Garner's pantomime of a fishing excursion in winter brought down the house with applause. He displayed a wonderful power of imitation.

At 2 o'clock they took dinner in the dining-room—93 guests being seated at the tables. After dinner, they inspected the shops and the buildings. When the committees were in the shoe-shop, they were surprised at its smallness in proportion to the number of benches, (there being 21.) The room is but 20 feet square, and thus there is only 20 square feet to each boy, without deducting a considerable space occupied by a stove and some machinery. They expressed the opinion that such a room was a disgrace to the State. They declared that a large new shoe-shop must be built soon.

We anxiously look forward to the time when the appropriations for 1873 and 1874 will be disposed of by the Legislature.

One day recently the central building, composed of the kitchen, dining-room, and chapel, might have burnt but for the

providential appearance of Mr. Gilbert, the man of all work in the kitchen. He extinguished the fire before it had done much damage.

W. L. M. B.

GEORGIA.

On Friday, January 10, one of the pupils, Mary Alice Smith, of Madison county, Ga., aged eleven years, was so severely burned that she died next morning. Her dress took fire from the grate, before which she was standing.

THE DEAF-MUTE'S DEATH AND FUNERAL.

Thoughts suggested on seeing the funeral procession of mutes crossing a stream, assisted by their teachers, following the remains of a little mute girl, who perished by fire recently in Cave Spring, Ga.

BY W. F. R.

The rain is o'er, the skies are bright,
The clouds have ceased their weeping;
The sun sends down his smiling light,
But Death still goes a reaping.

See there, a sad and funeral train,
With measured step and mourning,
And youthful hearts are full of pain,
And breaking, this bright morning.

The brightest of their throng lies there,
A blasted flower glooming;
The flames beheld her beauty rare,
And envied her bright blooming.

They wrapped her in their fiery light;
Remorseful at her dying
They changed their forms to wings all bright,
To aid her heavenward flying.

Oh, iron bells that ring her knell!
Your voices without feeling
These mutes hear not, but feel too well
Their grief beyond revealing.

See! now they meet a shining stream,
A narrow bridge detaining;
The timid halt above the gleam,
The brave the shore are gaining.

The voiceless train moves o'er the tide,
Which threatens in its flowing;
Strong friendly hands on either side,
Outstretched secure their going.

Ah, children! all are mourners here,
That way we all are treading;
The bridge of Death to all so near,
And all must cross, though dreading.

But friendly hands are on this side,
And friendly care is given,
And angels, coming o'er the tide,
Will help our steps to Heaven.

You'll cross the stream a voiceless train,
And weeping ones shall follow,
But there your voices you'll regain,
Some bright and glad to-morrow.

You'll cross the river's darkling waves,
To shores beyond all weeping,
To stand no more among the graves
Where love in dust is sleeping.

ONTARIO.

THERE was a pantomimic entertainment at this Institution on Christmas evening. The large hall at the east end of the building was handsomely decorated with evergreens, mottoes, and transparencies, gotten up by Mr. Ackermann. The hall was filled with between four and five hundred persons, three hundred of whom were visitors from the town. The stage occupied the south end of the room, and the scenery was really excellent. It had been provided especially for the occasion by the skill of Mr. Ackermann.

In opening the proceedings, Dr. Palmer, the worthy princi-

pal, expressed his gratification at seeing so many present, remarking that he did not intend to promise them much in the way of an intellectual treat, but he promised them all the fun and amusement they could desire. And his promise was fulfilled to the letter. If the audience did not have fun enough to last them for a month, and sufficient amusement to make the evening pass pleasantly away, it was not the fault of Mr. Greene and his company of deaf-mute actors. Mr. Greene himself is a capital actor, and in the pantomime of the Four Lovers—the principal piece of the evening—displayed his versatile genius to perfection. He was well sustained by the various other characters of the play, and the repeated outbursts of laughter and the rounds of applause which greeted the performers showed that their efforts to furnish amusement were highly successful.

Following the "Four Lovers," was the Dentist, Surgeon, and Rope-walk pantomimes, which afforded a great deal of amusement.

Immediately after these performances, the ceremony of presenting a banner to the firemen of the Institution, a gift from a lady in Hamilton, who has a young son in the Institution.

The presentation was made by Mr. Greene, on behalf of the donor, in sign-language, Dr. Palmer interpreting the address and reply of the captain of the company. The banner was a Union-Jack of real bunting, with the Dominion coat-of-arms beautifully worked in one corner. Ranged on the stage and dressed in their pretty costume, the firemen presented a fine appearance, and looked as if they could give a good account of themselves when called upon to "man the brakes."

This ceremony over, the visitors were invited to repair to the chapel to view the presents which the good old Christmas saint had provided in rich profusion for the pupils. Three Christmas trees were placed at the north end of the chapel, laden with toys and candies and books of every conceivable kind and variety, with small flags and mottoes and Chinese lanterns interspersed.

The *Belleville Intelligencer* gives the following opinion of the performance: "The whole entertainment was most enjoyable, and reflected a great deal of credit upon those instrumental in getting it up. If the principal would consent to the pantomimes being given in one of our public halls for the benefit of some charitable purpose, we are sure the public would appreciate the kindness. It would not only be the means of showing somewhat of the advantages the Institution is to the unfortunate class for which it was established, but it would afford a pleasant evening's entertainment to hundreds who were unable to see it last night, and also contribute to the aid of the noblest sentiment in the heart of man.

COLLEGE RECORD.

TEACHING.

MUCH as a long course of study strengthens the natural powers of a man, and brings out his latent abilities, it by no means follows that it will make a genius out of him or supply him with those gifts which nature has denied him. Hence, notwithstanding all the good which the Deaf-Mute College is capable of performing, it cannot be expected to send forth representatives of extraordinary talent unless persons possessed with latent powers of that character first enter it. As on an average not more than one person in a thousand is so fortunate as to be thus favored by nature, it surely cannot be thought that the College exists for their sole benefit. No one can object to a desire to see those few representatives of our class who have gone through a collegiate course of training do well in the world; but it must be remembered that, after all, students are only men.

The establishment of the College marks a new era in the instruction of deaf-mutes, and it must have many difficulties to encounter, many prejudices to overcome, and by many of the most intelligent be regarded as a Utopian scheme. It is held that in order to convince those who doubt the wisdom of the undertaking and have no faith in its ultimate success, every graduate should go out into the world, mingle freely in society, and adopt some active calling where men can see his works, and thus form a true conception of the extent and worth of his training. In no other way, it is claimed, can the minds of the great body of the people be freed from belief in the notion that deaf-mutes are physically and mentally disqualified from reaching a high standard of intellectual culture, and, therefore, from engaging in any other than the most lowly pursuits.

It does not seem natural that a people laboring under strong and early-formed prejudices can lend a prompt and willing support to a movement, the quality of whose fruits they have no opportunity of judging. Hence it is asserted that every graduate owes it as a duty not only to himself, but to the Institution which has fostered him and the class he represents, to do all in his power to remove these prejudices and impart a general knowledge of the real results attainable in the higher education of deaf-mutes.

Some argue that in becoming a teacher, much of one's time must necessarily be spent among those already familiar with the facts of the case, and having little connection with the great body of the people, the salutary influence he is capable of exerting will be altogether lost. There is considerable truth in all this, but let us see what can be said on the other side.

Teaching undoubtedly has its peculiar drawbacks, but instead of admitting that these are greater than those usually found in other professions, we contend that they are even less. The duties pertaining to a teacher's vocation do not engross more than six hours out of every twenty-four, and thus he has a large amount of leisure time, which, if he chooses, he may profitably employ in many ways. Add to this the yearly vacation of three months, and we at once see that in the aggregate his labors are much lighter than those demanded in any other calling. Indeed, the majority of professional, business, and working men are compelled to toil throughout the whole day, as well as the whole year round. To them a leisure hour comes seldom, and a holiday still more rarely.

If a teacher would properly employ this vast amount of leisure time he could not fail of securing the most gratifying results. For instance, a student could in this way not only perfect himself in all studies hurriedly gone through with during his collegiate course, but could extend his researches into the higher branches of learning.

If we look at the matter in a pecuniary point of view, we discover very little grounds for complaint. As a general thing, teachers worthy of the name are reasonably and often liberally paid. That many of them accumulate no property is no argument, for it may be safely asserted that if a man cannot save anything in one branch of business that yields him fair compensation, he will not be likely to do so in any other. If, out of a salary ranging from one to two thousand dollars a year, a teacher saves nothing, it is simply his own fault.

Since, then, teaching offers many advantages, while the objections against it are trivial, why should not our college graduates engage in it? It is a profession for which they are eminently qualified, one which is peculiarly suited to them, and one in which they are greatly needed. There is not an institution in the land that does not employ a larger or smaller number of second-rate teachers, for the simple reason that it cannot obtain enough of a higher rank. So great is

this want felt that graduates from speaking colleges are often selected to teach. To be sure, their services for the first few years are of little account, for before they can achieve much good they have to master a new language, and fully comprehend the system of deaf-mute instruction.

Here, now, is a class of young men, in point of intellect and scholarly attainments at least, the equals of these speaking graduates, and possessing a command over the sign language and a knowledge of the system in question which the latter could not hope to attain, even after long years of study and practice. Would it not seem the height of folly for these young men to refuse to engage in a work in which they are so much needed, and in which they can accomplish so much good, for the mere sake of trying their fortunes in some other branch of labor, for which they have made no special preparation, and for which, too, they have perhaps no extraordinary natural qualifications? The doors of one department are flung wide open, and the college graduate is invited to enter, and bright prospects are held up before him, while those of others, standing half ajar, are blocked up by a clamorous, hungry throng of applicants. When the demand for good teachers has been fully answered, then, and not till then, will it be time to say our graduates must choose some other calling. So long as they find themselves engaged in honorable and remunerative employment; so long as they find themselves in a position where they can accomplish much good, they need not let the thought trouble them that many people consider them as "poor unfortunates."

Another thing worthy of consideration is, that through this influx of good teachers the progress of pupils in our primary institutions might be much more satisfactory than has heretofore been the case. This consideration in itself possesses sufficient weight to overbalance all objections to well-educated deaf-mutes becoming teachers.

V. H.

If spring comes with the first bluebird, spring is here.

MRS. BRADSHAW, mother-in-law of Prof. Fay, is now honoring the Institution with a visit.

PROFESSOR to student in rhetoric: "What is blank verse?" Student, after a little thought: "The white spaces between the lines of a poem."

DR. CHARLES DENISON, of Hartford, Conn., has been here on a visit recently. He is taking a trip through the South for the benefit of his health.

B., of '75, has abandoned his contract for carrying the evening mail, having found that during the last three months his expenditures for sole leather amounted to five times his salary.

MRS. DENISON, the assistant matron, has gone to her home in Salem, Mass., for the term, and the duties of her position are to be discharged by Mrs. Rogers, a cousin of Miss Pratt, the matron.

THE Juniors witnessed some interesting experiments in the laboratory last week. They looked on admiringly while the professor, with the aid of an oxy-hydrogen blow-pipe, was burning platinum, iron, steel, and his fingers.

A PAIR of those lovely chromos, *Wide Awake* and *Fast Asleep*, have been hung in the Reading-room. These, together with three large steel engravings, and the class pictures of '69, '70, and '72, give the room quite an attractive appearance.

ABOUT ten days ago the College clock stopped, and a red rag soon appeared over its face, indicating that it was "down" with the small-pox. Next day it was carried away to the hospital for treatment, and has not yet returned. In its place a sign has been put up with this melancholy notice, "NO TICK HERE."

THE eccentric old gentleman whose persistent efforts to learn the finger-alphabet was described in the Record last summer has resumed his visits. He attends the Sunday afternoon services, imitates the motions of the lecturer with great earnestness, and at the close of the lecture goes about pathetically begging the students to teach him the beautiful language of signs.

THE attention of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals would be called to the inmates of room 17. They catch a little mouse every night in a trap with a revolving attachment, similar to a squirrel's cage. To keep this revolving for their amusement, they heartlessly compel the frightened mouse to gallop all day, when it is mercilessly slaughtered to make room for a new victim.

PROFESSOR OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.—"To-morrow the class will answer the following question: 'If a hole were bored through the centre of the earth from side to side, and a ball were dropped into it, what motions would the ball undergo, and when would it come to a state of rest?'" Next morning, professor to first student: "What answer do you give to my question?" "Well, really," said the student, "I have not thought of the main question yet, but of a preliminary one. How are you to get the hole through the earth?"

THE much and justly-abused Dumenade, alias Seventh street east, has been at its old tricks again. A few weeks ago, in the words of the lamenting old Irish lady, "It blewed and it snowed, and then friz." The last operation made hard work for promenaders, and the capers cut by the few who ventured upon its treacherous surface were wonderful to behold. Nor were bipeds the only sufferers. No living creature, with the single exception of that wonderful old animal, the nightmare, could venture forth with immunity to life and limb. Then it grew warmer, a warm rain fell, and the ice melted. The snow gave place to a layer of mud, soft and deep, washed down from the bank. And now the students were between the two horns of a dilemma, being uncertain whether it was best to remain shut up in their rooms to contract the blues and the dyspepsia, or to wade to the city for exercise, return with soaked feet, and pass the next fortnight in barking and sneezing. At last the kindly sun sent forth his genial rays to dry up the mud, and the imprisoned students rejoiced at the prospect of soon resuming their accustomed tramps. But alas for human expectations! The storms returned, the mud is deeper than ever, and no one knows when our tribulations will come to an end.

THE FORTNIGHT.

HOME.

THE recent snow-storm and hurricane in Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin continued fifty hours with so unrelenting severity that between two and three hundred persons, mostly heads of families lost their lives; thousands of horses, cattle, and other stock perished, and missing men continue to be found frozen every day.

The epizootic has reached Salt Lake City, and stage lines have been discontinued and ore teams stopped, to the serious loss of mining companies.

It seems that the Modoc Indians are fighting because they were placed on a reservation where they must inevitably have perished, as the country is subjected to snow and frost the year round. In the recent fight they captured seven guns and considerable ammunition.

Foster, who killed another man named Putnam with a car-hook for protecting a lady from his insolence last year, is to be hanged on the 7th of March.

Four boilers exploded in the American Iron Works at Pittsburg, Pa., on the 3d inst., resulting in the loss of seven lives and a large amount of property. There were three thousand laborers employed in the mill, but fortunately a large number of them were out on a strike. The roof and a large part of the walls of the mill were blown to pieces. About thirty were wounded, a few of them seriously.

The snow-drifts on the Union Pacific railroad are in some places sixteen feet in height, and five of the section hands on the road have been frozen to death.

It is said that the squaws took part in the recent Modoc fight, and one soldier was killed by a squaw.

There was another cold wave, coming as usual from the West, two weeks ago. The thermometer at Chicago was 20 degrees below zero on the 28th ult., and the mercury throughout New England ranged from 20 to 40 degrees below zero on the 29th. A freight train froze to the rails in Indiana.

The trial of Tweed, charged with having robbed the public money of New York city, resulted in the disagreement of the jury.

Michigan farmers drive into town with red-hot stoves in the rear end of their sleighs.

Boston rejoices at the decrease of small-pox consequent upon the efforts of the authorities to control it.

After the chaplain of the Wisconsin State prison had taught a convict how to write the fellow forged an order, by which he made his escape.

The Credit Mobilier investigation is dragging along in a way mysterious to everybody.

CONGRESS.

THE bill abolishing the franking privilege was passed by both Houses.

The bill for the admission of Colorado as a State was defeated in the House.

The bill subsidizing a line of steamers between California and Australia was killed in the Senate.

The Senate committee on the Louisiana election case has given a report to the Senate, declaring the vote for the Presidential electors illegal and void.

J. B. Stewart, a lawyer of Nebraska, was ordered by the House to be confined in a room in the basement of the Capitol for refusing to answer a question asked him by the Wilson Credit Mobilier committee.

POLITICAL.

SENATOR POMEROY, of Kansas, has been defeated in his efforts to secure a re-election to the United States Senate. State Senator Yorke declared in joint convention of the Legislature that Senator Pomeroy had bribed him to vote for him, and produced the money, amounting to seven thousand dollars, which Yorke alleged that Mr. Pomeroy gave him. Thereupon, amid great excitement, the convention elected Hon. J. Ingalls United States Senator in place of Mr. Pomeroy. Mr. Pomeroy denies the charge of bribery, and calls for a full investigation.

Susan B. Anthony and fifteen other ladies have been indicted by the United States grand jury for voting illegally at Rochester, N. Y., and indictments were also found against the inspectors who received their votes.

Mayor Havemeyer is looking sharp after the notorious swindling concerns of New York city; he finds the courts more hindrance than help.

Louisiana has still two Governors and two Legislatures. Fifty members of both Legislatures have agreed to meet for the purpose of making a compromise.

FOREIGN.

KING AMADEUS has abdicated the throne of Spain in consequence of a disagreement between him and his ministry, and the Cortes adopted a republican form of government by a vote of 259 in the affirmative and 32 in the negative.

The difficulty between Russia and England on the Khivan question is increasing, and France, Austria, Italy, Turkey, Denmark, and Sweden have determined to support the British government in its determination to prevent the encroachments of Russia in Central Asia.

The British Isles were visited by a violent storm on the 1st inst. Snow fell to an extraordinary depth, being six inches deep in the streets of London. Travel was almost wholly suspended, omnibuses and cabs ceasing to run.

Russia is preparing a campaign against Khiva. The invading army is to be 50,000 strong.

A terrible earthquake occurred in the island of Samos, (Greece,) causing great destruction of property and loss of life.

A hurricane visited Aspinwall, Central America, on the 8th ult., sinking several vessels and destroying sixty feet of the railroad wharf. Three persons lost their lives, and the total loss of property reaches nearly a million dollars.

Prince William C. Lunailo has been elected king of the Sandwich Islands. He is 38 years old, a descendant of the old race of chiefs who bore sway several hundred years, and has no blood relationship with the house of Kamehameha.

An earthquake has destroyed the city of Lehree, India, killing 500 persons. Japan is still progressing. It has abolished divorce.

The King of Holland has signed a decree depriving his oldest son of the right of succession to the throne, on account of his vicious and dissipated life.

There is still a disagreement between President Thiers and the Committee of Thirty, appointed by the Assembly to consult with him on the administration of the government.

The new King of the Sandwich Islands has promised to quit drinking, and if he does it is thought that he will make one of the most popular rulers the islands have had for some time.

The Shah of Persia is coming to visit Europe.

MARRIED.

AT Batesville, S. C., February 7, at the residence of the bride, by Rev. Samuel Greene, WILLIAM H. ROGERS, of Cedar Spring, S. C., to Miss TEXANNA ASHMORE. Both are graduates of the South Carolina Institution.

[Our editorial palate has been gratified with a very large bite of the wedding-cake, and we desire to return thanks to the happy couple, and express our wishes that they may have a long and prosperous life.—Eos.]

PUBLISHERS' DEPARTMENT.

The Sciopticon Manual.

THIS volume is a 12mo of 180 pages. It is a discussion of the subject of lantern exhibitions. The author, Mr. L. J. Marcy, of Philadelphia, has devoted many years to perfecting slides, lanterns, and other apparatus pertaining to this department of optical entertainment and instruction. He is the patentee of the SCIOPTICON, which is the highest grade of magic lantern which does not use the calcium light. His book, however, discusses all instruments, and abounds in illustrations, explanations, catalogues, facts, hints, and all else which can improve one's skill as an exhibitor in these directions.